19th August 1955]

* 2112 *Q.*—SRI P. RANGASWAMI REDDIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state whether the Government will be pleased to lay on the table of the House a copy of the Report of the Committee of three Medical Experts appointed by the Government to enquire into the case of a child Vasantha in Coimbatore, who was alleged to have lost her eyesight as a result of B.C.G. vaccination?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Yes, Sir. A copy of the Report [a] is placed on the table of the House."

* 2113 *Q.*—SRI P. RANGASWAMI REDDIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether a girl by name Pushpavalli, daughter of Mr. Shanmugha Kandiar, a merchant of Glasskara Street, Manambuchavadi (Tanjore), had B.C.G. vaccination on 8th June 1955;

(*b*) whether soon after vaccination she got seriously ill on returning home and whether the Municipal Doctor treated her;

(*c*) whether the girl died next day; and

(*d*) whether the District Medical Officer visited the place and made enquiries; if so, his findings regarding the causes of her death?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) The girl, Pushpavalli was not given any B.C.G. vaccination but had only the Tuberculin test on 8th June 1955.

" (*b*) It is understood that she developed fever in the course of the day and the Municipal doctor treated her.

" (*c*) Yes, Sir.

" (*d*) Yes, Sir. The District Medical Officer, Tanjore, visited the house along with one of the B.C.G. team Doctors the next morning after the girl had died, examined the body and made enquiries. The parents of the child mentioned that the child used to get ill frequently with glandular swelling in the groin. Taking into consideration all the circumstances of the case, the District Medical Officer considers that the girl suffered from an attack of filarial fever with adenitis and lymphangitis immediately preceding her death."

SRI S. PANCHAKSHARAM :—" It appears strange that almost all cases of complaints are peculiar to Coimbatore only. After the campaign was started by Sri C. Rajagopalachari, only one or two stray cases of complaint came from places like Tiruchirappalli. Have the Government tried to find out what is wrong with the B.C.G. vaccination in Coimbatore? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Most of the cases were from Coimbatore and reports about them came only after Rajaji started his anti-B.C.G. campaign . . ."

[a] Printed as Appendix II on pages 201–216 infra.